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TWO MEXICAN CITIZENS SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON FOR METH TRAFFICKING

PHOENIX – Two Mexican citizens were recently sentenced by U.S. District Judge Mary H. Murguia for Conspiracy to Possess with Intent to Distribute Methamphetamine. Ramon David Armenta-Luque, 28, was sentenced to 10 years in federal prison on March 17, 2008 and Gerardo Ontiveros-Garcia, 24, was sentenced on March 25, 2008, to 7 years and 4 months in federal prison. Both pleaded guilty in August 2007.

On October 18, 2006, a DEA confidential source met with Armenta-Luque at Armenta's business, D and L Auto Shop, located near downtown Phoenix. The confidential source negotiated the purchase of eight pounds of methamphetamine from Armenta for \$93,000. Armenta called Ontiveros-Garcia and asked him to deliver eight pounds of methamphetamine to him (Armenta) at his auto shop. On October 18, 2006, Gerardo Ontiveros-Garcia delivered 8 pounds of methamphetamine to Armenta in a black bag. DEA agents arrested Armenta and Ontiveros from within the auto shop and seized the eight pounds of methamphetamine that was contained in a black bag hidden on the auto shop premises.

As a result of Armenta-Luque and Ontiveros-Garcia's drug trafficking convictions they are subject to deportation. Those proceedings will commence upon the completion of their federal prison sentences.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Drug Enforcement Administration. The prosecution was handled by Keith E. Vercauteren, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

CASE NUMBER: CR-06-1002-PHX-MHM

RELEASE NUMBER: 2008-074(Armenta-Luque & Ontiveros-Garcia)

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